



REPORTS

—OF THE—

TOWN OFFICERS

—OF THE—

Town of Northfield.

1899.



ANNUAL REPORT

—OF THE—

SELECTMEN,

Overseers of Poor and Assessors,

—OF THE—

Town of Northfield,

—TOGETHER WITH—

Reports of the [School Committee, Treasurer,
Collector, Cemetery Commissioners, Library
Trustees and Librarian, and Committee
on By-Laws.

—FOR THE—

YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 13, 1899.

ATHOL, MASS;

PRINTED BY THE ATHOL TRANSCRIPT CO., 20 TO 26 EXCHANGE ST.,
1899.



Report of the Selectmen.

TO THE CITIZENS OF NORTHFIELD:

We herewith submit for your consideration the following report concerning the receipts and expenditures of the town for the financial year ending Feb. 13th, 1899. We have endeavored to look after the interests of the town in an economical way, but have been forced to exceed our appropriations to meet the necessary expenditures.

There has been quite an increase in our poor, especially the out of town poor, which are in some cases difficult to manage. We have one family which it is expected the town will soon be relieved of.

Our contingent expenses foot up more than usual, partly on account of abatements that should have been cancelled in 1895 and 1897 and salaries of some of the town officers for the year which have not usually been settled, also absence of court fines for cases before the District court for which we have paid officers fees. Some of our roads were in very poor condition early in the year, especially the Warwick road, which caused an increased expenditure. This report also includes the expenses of running Munn and Morgan's ferries. Our roads were in fairly good condition when winter set in.

The money raised for Mill Brook hills has not been expended; this section of the highway being included in the survey for the state highway, we deemed it best not to make any alterations in the same, awaiting the decision of the state commissioners on the petition presented them with plans as surveyed for a portion of the amount in their hands to be allotted. A hearing before the State Board was attended Feb. 9th.

Our financial report shows the town in a healthy condition financially, with a good balance in favor of the town.

ERNEST C. FIELD,	} Selectmen of Northfield.
SAMUEL C. HOLTON,	
CLINTON A. WARE,	

Town Warrant,

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

FRANKLIN, ss:

To Either of the Constables of the Town of Northfield, County aforesaid—Greeting:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are directed to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Northfield qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs, to meet in the Town Hall in said Northfield on Monday, March 6th, 1899, at 9 o'clock A. M., then and there to act on the following articles.

Article 1. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

Article 2. To hear the reports of the several Town Officers and outstanding committees or act thereon.

Article 3. To choose all necessary town officers for the ensuing year, also to bring in their ballots, Yes or No, in answer to the following question: Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this town.

Article 4. To see if the town will accept of the Jury list as revised, or act thereon.

Article 5. To see what action the town will take in regard to discount or interest on taxes, or act thereon.

Article 6. To see if the town will authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to make temporary loans, or act thereon.

Article 7. To see if the town will appropriate and raise a sum of money for Memorial Day, or act thereon.

Article 8. To see if the town will appropriate and raise a sum of money to be applied on the town debt, or act thereon.

Article 9. To see if the town will appropriate and raise a sum of money for the care and improvement of the cemeteries.

Article 10. To see if the town will instruct the Cemetery Commissioners to have the cemeteries mowed three times during the season, or act thereon.

Article 11. To see if the town will accept and adopt the by-laws presented by the committee chosen at the special town meeting, Dec. 24th, or act thereon.

Article 12. To see if the town will purchase a new road scraper, or act thereon.

Article 13. To see if the town will instruct their road commissioner to remove the stones both sides of Main Street, placed there by the Village Improvement Society, or act thereon.

Article 14. To see if the town will purchase runners and pole for the new hearse, or act thereon.

Article 15. To see if the town will appropriate and raise a sum of money to raise and put an extension on rear of the Town Hall, choose a committee to do the same, or act thereon.

Article 16. To see if the town will make a survey and plans of the cemeteries in the town and raise and appropriate a sum of money for the same, or act thereon.

Article 17. To see if the town will accept of the gift of land from the Misses Belcher for the enlargement of the cemetery at the Center, and raise and appropriate a sum of money for fixing up the same, or act thereon.

Article 18. To raise such sums of money as shall be necessary to defray town charges for the ensuing year.

Article 19. To see if the town will vote to grant to Mrs. A. M. D. Alexander the right to place within the limits of the public highway, monuments, tablets or other devices to mark historic places or commemorate historic events.

Article 20. To see if the town will raise and appropriate a sum of money not exceeding fifty dollars to defray the preliminary expenses of the hearing before the Superior Court of the grade crossing on the road leading to Stebbins' Ferry or act thereon.

Article 21. To see if the town will adopt the provisions of Chapter 50, Sections 20, 21, 22 and 23 of the Public Statutes, relative to sidewalks; appropriate and raise any sum of money for the construction of sidewalks, designate where the same shall be constructed, or act thereon.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies thereof in five public places in town, nine days at least before the day appointed for said meeting, one of which shall be the Post Office at Northfield, one the Post Office at East Northfield, one the Post Office at West Northfield, one the Post Office at Northfield Farms, and one the school house in District No. 6. Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of meeting as aforesaid.

Given under our hands, this the seventeenth day of February, in the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine.

ERNEST C. FIELD,	}	Selectmen of Northfield.
SAMUEL C. HOLTON,		
CLINTON A. WARE.		

Jury List For 1899.

Edward B. Murdock,
Francis J. Stockbridge,
Ambert G. Moody,
John H. Bolton,
Fred Z. Allen,
Clarence A. Randall,
Fred C. Britton,
Charles L. Robbins,
Simon S. Fisher,
Frank E. Stimpson,
Joseph A. Ross,
Arnold H. Holton,
Charles H. Gilbert,
George W. Piper,
Clinton A. Ware,
Frank E. Aldrich,
Osgood L. Leach.

Oscar F. Durkee,
Samuel C. Holton,
Fred B. Caldwell,
J. Wesley Mann,
Clifford I. Holton,
Thomas R. Callender,
Geo. E. Holton,
Warren S. Osgood
Ozro D. Adams,
Charles C. Stearns
Nelson G. Hilliard
Harlan P. Braman.
Pitts W. Preston
Leonard R. Smith,
Forest B. Estabrooks
Henry C. Holton.

Assessors' Report.

Valuation of real estate,	\$828,994 00
Valuation of personal estate,	87,268 00

Total valuation May 1, 1898,	\$916,262 00
Number of polls,	503
persons assessed,	775
persons assessed on property,	625
persons assessed for poll tax only,	150
resident taxpayers,	474
non-resident taxpayers,	151
horses assessed,	526
cows assessed,	717
sheep assessed,	186
neat cattle assessed,	301
swine assessed,	205
dwellings assessed,	430
acres of land assessed,	19,730

ASSESSMENT FOR 1898.

State tax,	\$570 00
County tax,	2,332 59

\$2,902 59

TOWN APPROPRIATIONS FOR 1898.

Schools in general,	\$2,800 00
repairs on buildings,	200 00
text books and supplies,	300 00
conveyance,	300 00
superintendent,	26 000

\$3,860 00

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ASSESSORS.

9

Contingent and support of poor,	3,000 00
Highways, general repairs,	2,000 00
Survey state road,	100 00
Mill Brook hill,	200 00
R. R. Bridge road to Dickinson Hall,	100 00
Highland Avenue sidewalk,	150 00
Hook and Ladder Co.	40 00
Cemeteries in general,	100 00
Memorial Day,	50 00
Library,	550 00
Overlay	322 76
	\$10,472 76

APPROPRIATED, NOT RAISED.

Library furnishing,	\$2,000 00
Town debt,	500 00
	2,500 00

Total appropriated \$12,972 76

Raised on polls,	1,006 00
“ “ personal estate,	1,178 80
“ “ real estate,	11,190 55
	\$13,375 35

Tax on each poll, \$2.00.

Rate per \$1000, \$13.50.

ERNEST C. FIELD,	} Assessors
SAMUEL C. HOLTON,	
CLINTON A. WARE,	
	of
	Northfield.

List of Abatements.

M. T. Moore, Collector for 1897,	
James W. Arlin,	\$2 00
George N. Clark,	2 31
Lyman H. Clay,	2 00
David Cotter,	2 00
E. O. Frink,	2 00
Girard Graves,	2 00
Fayette C. Howard,	2 00
Earle Chapin,	2 00
Hiram Johnson,	2 25
George Lamb,	2 00
John Lewcarriage,	2 00
V. E. Lombard,	2 00
Judah Nash,	2 00
Jonathan Stimpson, estate (exemption law,)	5 69
Edwin B. Stratton,	2 00
Toney Trela,	2 00
John Thenoski,	2 00
Vincent [Polander]	2 00
Joseph “	2 00

\$42 25

Report of Overseers of Poor.

A. H. RICHARDS AND WIFE:

Town of Royalston, aid,	105 44	
“ Hubbardston, “	76 00	
S. C. Holton, car fares to Royalston,	1 80	
		\$183 24

DWIGHT COOK AND FAMILY:

Town of Montague, aid,	219 86
------------------------	--------

GARDNER COLLIER:

Weekly aid to Feb. 11th, 1899.	74 00
--------------------------------	-------

EDWARD J. FITZGERALD, Boston,

Weekly aid,	96 00
-------------	-------

WATSON FAMILY:

Town of Watertown, aid,	39 25
-------------------------	-------

NELSON ALDRICH:

Town of Fairhaven, aid,	1 50
-------------------------	------

COLEMAN C. SMITH.

Northampton Lunatic Hospital,	169 46
-------------------------------	--------

CHARLES PARKER:

Com. of Mass.	146 00
---------------	--------

JOHN QUINLAN:

Com. of Mass.	122 40
---------------	--------

F. H. STONE:

City of Boston, aid,	37 00
----------------------	-------

FRED W. WHITNEY:

City of Lowell, aid,	24 50
----------------------	-------

MARY B. ALLEN:

Town of Warwick, aid,	10 00
-----------------------	-------

W. H. BRITT:

Town of Athol, aid,	28 00
---------------------	-------

CHARLES LORD:

T. F. Reed, board,	87 00	
A. W. Proctor, shoes,	2 25	
		89 25

12 ANNUAL REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

LYDIA PACKARD AND CHILD:		
O. H. Doolittle, board,	240 42	
E. C. Field, car fare to Orange,	59	
H. S. Ames, legal advice,	20 00	
		261 01
JONATHAN LYMAN:		
O. H. Doolittle, board,		133 57
JOHANNA DRISCOLL:		
Jerry Twine, board,	19 00	
P. Coughlin, board	57 00	
A. W. Proctor, goods furnished,	4 70	
		80 70
MRS. GEORGE DOOLITTLE:		
Weekly aid,		88 00
JOHN CASEY AND FAMILY:		
City of Northampton, aid,		111 96
L. WEBSTER:		
A. W. Proctor, goods furnished,		2 00
GAD LYMAN:		
Dr. N. P. Wood, medical aid,		46 50
CHARLES BRIGGS:		
A. W. Proctor, goods furnished,	11 94	
C. A. Ware, " "	6 10	
F. E. Atwood, meat "	2 22	
Town of Winchendon, aid,	19 75	
E. C. Field, carfare and team at Winchendon,	1 44	
		41 45
HIRAM JOHNSON:		
A. W. Proctor, goods furnished,	9 70	
R. C. Ward, medical attendance,	13 00	
		22 70
ASA KENISTON:		
A. W. Proctor, goods furnished,	30 70	
R. C. Ward, medical attendance,	2 00	
		32 70
ELECTA STRATTON:		
Mrs. J. E. Lincoln, board,	35 00	
FANNIE HERMANSON:		
F. V. Wood, board,	16 00	
A. W. Proctor, telephone,	65	
A. L. Newton, medical attendance,	7 00	
		23 65

ANNUAL REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF THE POOR. 13

WILLIAM DALE:	
Weekly aid,	65 00
MRS. JAMES MATTOON:	
Weekly aid,	72 00
MRS. C. KIMPLIN:	
Weekly aid,	60 00
Thos. Quinlan, wood,	14 00
Town of Athol, aid,	4 45
John R. Casey, care of tramps,	11 80
M. Dickinson care of tramps,	32 00
S. C. Holton, car fare account of poor,	43 80
	50
MRS. ALVA KIMPLIN:	
Town of Bernardston, rent,	25 00
	\$2,404 45

CR.

Received from T. Quinlan, account John Quinlan,	\$122 40
Due from State, account H. Johnson,	22 70
Due from town of Ashby, account A. Keniston,	32 70
Received from F. Hermanson,	23 65
	201 45
Total expense of poor,	\$2,203 00

ERNEST C. FIELD,	}	Overseers of Poor.
SAMUEL C. HOLTON,		
CLINTON A. WARE,		

H. C. Holton, Selectman, 1897,	\$80 00
H. C. Holton, Road Commissioner, 1897,	103 25
S. C. Holton, Selectman,	106 86
E. C. Field,	121 13
L. R. Smith, School Com.,	13 75
C. A. Ware, Register,	11 25
T. R. Callender,	11 25
F. J. Stockbridge,	11 25
D. E. Lyman, Auditor,	2 50
C. C. Stearns,	2 50
M. T. Moore, collector, constable, and election officer,	106 50
R. C. Ward, cattle inspector,	33 75
E. C. Field, mailing town reports,	5 50
Gardner News Co., printing town reports,	41 76
M. T. Moore, Col., abatement poor people's taxes, 1894 per order assessors 1895.	99 23
Discounts abatement, 1897,	339 20
“ “ 1898,	338 56
Abatement account D. Johnson, "Perry Farm" 1897,	4 00
District court fees,	35 06
Abatement poor peoples' taxes, 1898,	42 25
Posting town warrants, 1897,	12 00
Stationary, printing and postage,	19 25
Posting town warrant, 1898,	6 00
W. M. Smead, District Court fees,	9 72
R. L. Doane,	5 20
F. W. Doane,	5 66
E. J. Pratt,	4 76
American Express Co., express charges,	8 05
F. W. Doane, coal for town hall,	18 76

C. H. Webster, insurance policies,	72 50
“ Justice of Peace fee,	25
Gleason & Packard, insurance policy,	63 00
W. F. Nichols, surveying library lot,	1 50
A. W. Proctor, oil and chimneys for hall,	6 87
C. T. Bagnall, stationery and printing,	11 26
E. A. Hall, tax collector books,	1 56
C. T. Cook, blank book,	15
E. C. Field, copying valuation for Secy Com.	7 50
Thomas Quinlan, wood for hall,	4 00
John D. Bowker, registering library deed,	50
C. C. Stearns, cook stove for hall,	2 00
Henry W. Russell, care of town clock,	7 50
H. H. Mason, “ “	5 00
driving hearse,	39 00
care of town hall,	30 00
repairs at town hall,	2 25
moving and cleaning weights and measures,	2 25
return of deaths,	6 75
W. J. Wright, paid for return of births,	5 50
stamps, stationery, locks, etc..	15 05
Town Clerk and Treasurer,	209 10
Nellie M. Wood, services as school Com. and stamps, 1898,	5 45
E. S. Bardwell, services as school committee, 1898,	5 25
L. R. Smith, “ “ “ and incidental, 1898,	25 00
Green & Davenport, legal advice,	1 00
S. C. Holton, bridge tolls and stamps,	2 04
E. C. Field, car fare to Boston, account highway commission,	4 36
postage,	2 44
C. C. Stearns, election officer, Nov.	2 50
N. D. Alexander, teller, March meeting,	2 50
R. K. Caldwell, abatements account errors 1897 and 1898,	1 30
Chas. Pomeroy estate, abatements account Perry farm,	1 30
Dudley Johnson, “ “ “	1 95
Lucretia and Cora Moore, abatements account exemption law,	13 50
C. L. Robbins, election officer, Nov.	2 50
D. E. Lyman, “ “ “	2 50
C. C. Stearns, cemetery commissioner,	3 75
F. A. Hilliard, “ “	3 75
R. K. Caldwell, “ “	3 75

C. T. Bagnall, printing envelopes and note paper acct. Treas.	2 60
H. H. Mason, sawing wood at town hall acct. library,	1 50

\$2,181 38

Cr.

District Court fine,	5 00
----------------------	------

Total, \$2,176 38

Expense of poor, \$2,203 00

Contingent, 2,176 38

\$4,379 38

Appropriation Poor and Contingent, 3,000 00

Overdrawn, \$1,379 38

STATE AND MILITARY AID.

Daniel W. Burnham,	\$24 00
Gardner Collier,	48 00
Mrs. Gardner Collier,	28 00
Thomas Hart,	48 00
Charles X. Janes,	72 00
Roswell Stratton,	8 00
Mrs. Roswell Stratton,	32 00
William Strange,	48 00

\$308 00

REPORT OF ELISHA ALEXANDER FUND.

Mrs. J. L. May,	\$5 00
Gad Lyman,	5 00
Miss Fannie Field,	10 00
Miss Emma Hilliard,	5 00
Miss Hattie Hilliard,	5 00
Mrs. Fayette Howard,	10 00

\$40 00

Highways.

F. W. Ruggles,	Labor,	112 78
Samuel Ruggles,	"	13 20
O. F. Durkee,	"	57 03
F. H. Montague,	"	17 18
Thos. B. Metcalf,	"	13 00
F. W. Hilliard,	"	17 60
C. L. Gilbert,	"	2 25
J. L. Hammond,	"	88
George Preston,	"	1 50
L. C. Miller,	"	1 50
L. E. Fisher,	"	3 00
Henry T. Hall,	"	1 50
Frank C. Stratton,	"	60
Ira H. Ewers,	"	1 50
G. H. Lyman,	"	3 60
Ozro D. Adams,	"	1 20
S. W. Weatherhead,	"	5 75
W. C. Manchester,	"	11 55
W. S. Hastings,	"	75
G. B. Kenney,	"	11 13
Clinton Whittaker,	"	45
W. H. Browning,	"	6 20
E. E. Howes,	"	3 07
W. W. Merriam,	"	5 00
H. F. Field,	"	5 18
E. C. Field,	"	8 20
E. A. Nash,	"	12 30
F. H. Simonds,	"	10 50
J. C. Delvey,	"	2 70
J. E. Dresser,	"	24 55

H. C. Wentworth,	"	1 50
Orin Darling,	"	3 00
J. A. Holland and others,	"	76 84
Geo. A. Field,	"	3 00
Arad Stratton,	"	11 25
Ezra Sharmtley,	Ferryman,	43 25
J. H. Dalton,	Labor,	366 23
T. Quinlan,	"	44 00
H. D. Field,	"	74 00
J. W. Black,	"	5 20
A. J. Arlin,	"	1 50
J. P. Campbell,	"	6 30
A. W. Mason,	"	3 00
H. H. Mason,	"	60
Thomas Hart,	"	1 65
W. Arlin,	"	3 00
F. L. King,	"	1 50
Arnold Holton,	"	14 04
C. A. Parker,	"	6 00
L. O. Clapp,	"	1 50
W. C. Reed,	"	1 50
F. A. Bigelow,	"	11 40
Gardner Collier,	"	50
C. O'Keefe,	"	70
Daniel O'Keefe,	"	14 20
C. W. Slate,	"	1 95
C. R. Pomeroy,	"	23 25
J. Callaghan,	"	8 25
O. S. Davis,	"	4 37
W. Davis,	"	2 47
Wm. Slate,	"	7 35
G. H. Slate,	"	13 40
O. E. Slate,	"	14 39
H. C. Alexander,	"	90
L. W. Pratt,	"	5 82
J. R. Casey,	"	27 30
G. Stearns,	"	3 50
Geo. Irish,	"	1 50
A. H. Irish,	"	3 00

B. Gillett,	Labor,	18 30
J. Driscoll,	"	11 55
J. Dale, Sr.,	"	17 70
F. Streeter,	"	6 15
John Glace,	"	4 05
Charles Gillette,	"	8 25
W. T. Mack,	"	1 50
Geo. Abbott,	"	5 70
Geo. W. Piper, Agt. and others,	"	199 24
E. B. Murdock,	"	7 05
G. E. Murdock,	"	3 75
H. W. Russell,	"	1 35
R. E. Long, Agt and others,	"	113 49
Ira C. Lazelle,	"	2 80
C. P. Britton,	"	14 00
F. W. Doane,	"	19 95
F. D. Robbins,	"	13 20
A. J. Whittemore,	"	6 00
Northfield Seminary,	"	147 40
Harry Holton,	"	6 45
H. C. Holton,	"	17 00
Wm. Strange,	"	2 25
Chas. Strange,	"	1 20
Wm. Bain,	"	6 23
Rufus Phillips,	"	16 57
D. D. Streeter,	"	13 50
W. B. Burrows,	"	18 50
F. Z. Allen,	"	35 58
D. Preston, Agt. and others,	"	48 31
P W. Preston,	"	85 25
F. B. Holton,	"	9 40
C. I. Holton,	"	35 75
Walter Doolittle,	"	2 25
Charles Aldrich,	"	4 95
Wm. Aldrich,	"	4 10
Fred Lewis,	"	5 70
Leslie Tyler,	"	1 05
Edward Smith,	"	3 00

George Strange,	Labor,	3 00
Wright Farnum,	"	3 90
W. J. Leonard,	"	8 10
Town of Gill, 1-2 expense Morgan's Ferry,		44 88
		\$2,176 21

MATERIAL FOR HIGHWAY.

B. F. Streeter, covering stone,	3 00
Estelle M. Pierce, gravel 1896 and 1897,	15 00
“ “ “ 1898,	7 00
C. R. Nelson, guide boards	2 00
“ “ plank,	6 15
J. C. Delvey, oars and spike poles,	2 59
A. W. Proctor, nails, spikes and pick,	2 13
G. A. Stearns, plank,	25 61
Northfield Seminary, tile and cement,	2 80
Thomas Quinlan, plank and posts,	43 05
“ “ stringers,	10 20
H. C. Holton, “	1 00
J. L. Matton, tile,	14 40
F. Z. Allen, railing and posts,	15 72
Pickard & Walker, rope for boat,	85
G. E. Allen, points and edges for scraper,	18 00
F. E. Stimpson, lantern stolen from highway,	50
American Express Co., express charges on scraper points,	1 15
	\$171 15

WATER RENTS.

Northfield Aqueduct Co.,	10 00
M. E. Dickinson,	5 00
E. C. Field,	5 00
W. N. Smith.	5 00
J. A. Ross,	3 00
	\$28 00

MEADOW HILL, WEST NORTHFIELD.

C. I. Holton, labor,	22 75
Frank B. Holton, "	3 75
Frank Robbins, "	13 50

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN.

21

Albert Preston,	"	12 00
P. W. Preston,	"	45 00
"	" posts and spikes,	1 72

\$98 72

SIDEWALK, HIGHLAND AVE.

Northfield Seminary, labor,	150 00
-----------------------------	--------

SURVEY STATE ROAD.

Clapp & Abercrombre, surveying and plans,	100 00
---	--------

Highways in general,	2,176 21	
Material,	171 15	
Water rents,	28 00	
Meadow Hill,	98 72	
Sidewalk, Highland Ave.,	150 00	
Survey State road,	100 00	
		\$2,724 08

Appropriation highways,	2,000 00	
Meadow Hill,	100 00	
Sidewalk, Highland Ave.	150 00	
Survey State road,	100 00	2,350 00

Overdrawn,	\$374 08
------------	----------

Received from town of Gill, account Munn's ferry, 1-2 expense,	\$29 39
--	---------

Report of Cemetery Commissioners.

We herewith submit for your consideration our report for the past year. The cemeteries are in very good condition, but, owing to the appropriation being reduced to such an extent, they have not received all the care we would wish. We would advise that the appropriation be increased to the amount of former years. We would recommend the acceptance of the gift of land from the Misses Belcher for an addition to the cemetery at the Center, and trust their generosity will be truly appreciated. We also recommend, and believe it to be an absolute necessity, that the town make suitable surveys and plans of our cemeteries, and raise and appropriate sufficient money for the same.

Paid for work in cemeteries as follows:

Albert J. Brown,	\$ 1 43
Amos W. Stanton,	2 55
Fortene A. Bigelow,	8 50
Amos Bigelow,	7 60
Oscar E. Slate,	9 35
George Slate,	8 62
Willie J. Alexander,	50
N. D. Alexander,	10 00
H. H. Chamberlain,	1 25
Frank Harness,	4 00
C. C. Stearns,	14 20
H. C. Holton,	2 00
Benj. Morrison,	2 00
Arad Stratton,	2 50
F. A. Hilliard,	7 50
	\$82 00
Paid for care of individual lots:	
Charles Alexander, lot,	8 00

J. S. Packard, lot,	4 00	
Levi Fay, “	4 50	
Samuel Lane, “	3 00	
J. Minot, “	6 00	
	-----	25 50

Total,		\$107 50
Appropriation,	100 00	
Received for funds,	25 50	
	-----	\$125 50
Balance unexpended,		18 00

R. K. CALDWELL,
FREEMAN HILLIARD, } Cemetery
C. C. STEARNS, } Commissioners.

Collector's Report.

DR.	
Amount committed for collection, 1898,	\$13,375 35
“ uncollected for 1896,	25 00
“ “ “ 1897,	107 69
	-----\$13,508 04
CR.	
Paid Town Treasurer, 1898,	\$9,823 31
Balance uncollected,	3,684 73
	-----\$13,508 04

MERRILL T. MOORE, Collector.

Feb. 13, 1899.

Selectmen's Financial Report.

DR.	
Orders issued on Town Treasurer since Feb. 10, 1898,	\$14,149 89
CR.	
Paid for poor,	2,404 45
contingent,	2,181 38
highways,	2,347 36
schools,	4,532 45
cemeteries,	107 50
Memorial Day,	50 00
library,	2,110 03
water rents,	28 00
meadow hill to Dickinson Hall,	98 72
sidewalk Highland Ave.,	150 00
hook and ladder company,	40 00
surveying state road,	100 00
	-----\$14,149 89

ERNEST C. FIELD, SAMUEL C. HOLTON, CLINTON A. WARE,	} } }	Selectmen of Northfield,
---	-------------	--------------------------------

Financial Condition of the Town, Feb. 13, 1899.

LIABILITIES.

Greenfield Savings Bank,	\$1,600 00
E. C. Field, selectman,	125 75
S. C. Holton, “	74 12
C. A. Ware, “	94 00
M. T. Moore, collector,	100 00
Outstanding orders, 1893, not paid,	5 44
“ “ 1897, “	12 25
“ “ 1898, “	684 14
Estimated expense of poor Feb. 13, bills not rendered,	290 00
	————— \$2,985 70

ASSETS.

Cash in hands of treasurer,	\$2,473 77
“ “ library trustees,	8 63
Due from H. H. Mason, rent of town hall,	40 50
“ state account Hiram Johnson,	22 70
“ “ state aid,	84 00
“ town of Ashby, account of Asa Keniston,	4 50
“ M. T. Moore, collector, 1896,	25 00
“ “ “ 1897,	107 69
“ “ “ 1898,	3,552 04
	————— \$6,491 83
Balance in favor of town,	3,506 13

ERNEST C. FIED, SAMUEL C. HOLTON, CLINTON A. WARE,	}	Selectmen of Northfield.
--	---	--------------------------------

Treasurer's Report.

W. J. WRIGHT IN ACCOUNT WITH TOWN OF NORTHFIELD.

	Dr.	Cr.
To balance from previous account,	3,340 75	
cash from Mt. Hermon school, use of derrick,	7 60	
J. H. Eames, auctioneer's license,	2 00	
State Treasurer, account state paupers,	10 90	
“ “ inspection animals,	47 50	
F. V. Wood, account pool table license,	2 00	
C. M. Brewster, “ “	2 00	
W. S. Allen, account H. Duncan's fine,	5 00	
town of Warwick, account John H. Wise,	83 50	
T. Quinlan, account John Quinlan,	66 81	
S. C. Holton, account Mrs. Johnson,	10 00	
E. C. Field, account sale small boat at Munn's ferry,	2 00	
State Treasurer, acct. corporation tax,	1,477 06	
State Treasurer, acct. National Bank tax,	236 98	
State Treasurer, acct. Military aid,	36 00	
State Treasurer, acct. State aid,	216 00	
County Treasurer acct. dog fund re- turned,	188 49	
E. C. Field, acct. sale of old wind- ows, Union Hall, - -	3 60	
State Treasurer, acct. Mass. school fund,	394 43	
town of Ashby, acct. A. Keniston,	37 88	
Franklin County National Bank, tem- porary loans,	2,951 33	
M. T. Moore, Coll., acct. 1898 tax,	9,823 31	
“ “ “ 1897 “	4,033 22	
“ “ “ 1896 “	175 00	
town of Gill, acct. Munn's ferry,	29 39	

income surplus revenue,	128 00
income cemetery funds,	50 26
S. C. Holton, acct. Fannie Hermanson,	15 00
L. R. Smith, acct. tuition,	12 00
“ “ supplies,	4 40
“ “ Supt. schools,	173 00
By cash paid Selectmen's orders,	14,291 05
Greenfield Savings bank interest,	90 00
“ “ on debt,	500 00
county tax,	2,332 59
state tax,	570 00
Franklin Co. National bank, temporary loans,	3,000 00
state aid,	308 00
cash in hands of treasurer,	2,473 77

\$23,565 41 \$23,565 41

W. J. WRIGHT, Treasurer.

Northfield, Mass., Feb. 14th, 1899.

Report of Trustees of Dickinson Memorial Library.

In presenting their annual report, the Library trustees "point with pride" to the record of the past year, and the beneficial results flowing from the opening of our new public library building. The Dickinson Memorial Library building was dedicated June 9th, 1898, with very impressive and interesting exercises.

In presenting the deed and keys to the chairman of the Selectmen, Mr. Dickinson said he gave the building to the town free and unconditional, "save only that it should be used for the purpose for which it was designed." The dedicatory exercises were held in the Congregational church, which was filled with an interested audience. Many were present from out of town, especially a good number of Mr. Dickinson's friends from Fitchburg.

The State Free Public Library Commission, evinced its interest in the occasion by being represented by one of its members, Mr. Samuel Swett Green of Worcester, and Amherst College was represented by its librarian, Mr. W. I. Fletcher. Music was furnished by a choir of young ladies from the Seminary, (Estey Chorus) and the public school children. A collation was furnished in the vestry of the church by the citizens of the town. The day was one of the red letter days in the history of Northfield. Without further comment we insert the program of the dedicatory exercises:

PROGRAMME.

Invocation,
Music.

REV. G. GLENN ATKINS

Introductory Remarks by the President of the Day,

REV. C. I. SCOFIELD, D. D.

Presentation of Deed and Keys of the Building by Mr. Dickinson to
Chairman of the Selectmen, E. C. Field.

Presentation of Keys and custody of Building by Mr. E. C. Field
to the Chairman of the Trustees, Dr. N. P. Wood.

Music,

Dedicatory Address,

REV. GEO. F. PIPER

Music.

Address,

SAMUEL SWETT GREEN

of the Free Public Library Commission.

Address,

W. I. FLETCHER

Librarian Amherst College.

Music.

Address,

D. L. MOODY

Address,

REV. G. GLENN ATKINS

Music.

Benediction.

It is important that the citizens of Northfield shall become strongly imbued with the idea that this gift to the town by Mr. Dickinson is one of the most valuable as an instrument in the educational and moral advancement of any community. All honor to the man who has made this contribution to the intellectual development of our historic town; a center of culture and of progress; a treasure house of letters and of learning. It deserves the unremitting care and unstinted support of every loyal citizen.

The trustees have endeavored to bring the library within easy reach of every scholar in town. The school superintendent and public school teachers have been important agents in contributing to this result, and the number of volumes taken by teachers and scholars has been largely increased, and the quality of such reading much improved. By this means many books have found a way into a number of families living at a distance from the library who never before took out volumes.

A public library's usefulness is measured by the number of persons it helps to educate or entertain. It will be the aim of the present board of trustees to cause the widest possible distribution of books among all the families in this town. This result can be greatly enlarged by the individual help of every citizen interested in the library's usefulness. A free public reading room has been not the least valuable of the benefits afforded by the library. This has been open to the public three afternoons and evenings each week. The furnishings of this room are such as are sure to attract and cultivate, and it is supplied with a carefully selected list of the best periodicals now printed. This list should

be enlarged, which is possible by a more liberal appropriation. Parents are urged to induce their children to avail themselves of the advantages of this reading room.

At a town meeting held Nov. 2, 1897, two thousand dollars were raised and appropriated to furnish the library. With a portion of this sum, book-stacks, tables, chairs, a plant for lighting and fixtures for the same, curtains, screens, and mats for the floor and stairs were bought. Recently a cabinet for the preservation of relics has been purchased. So much seemed to the trustees to be needed immediately. Many other needs are evident to the trustees, but they prefer to wait and see which are the most important before expending the remainder of the appropriation. At the annual March meeting of 1898 the number of trustees was increased to six. At the first meeting of the board it was organized as follows: N. P. Wood, chairman; W. H. Rankin, secretary; C. H. Green, treasurer; Geo. F. Piper, H. W. Rankin and Mrs. M. A. Caldwell were elected book committee; N. P. Wood, C. H. Green and H. W. Montague executive committee. The executive committee appointed Mrs. F. J. Stockbridge, librarian, and Mr. F. J. Stockbridge janitor.

The board issued an appeal for relics, and a fair number of such has been received. Others have been promised. There is no doubt that enough historic relics exist in this vicinity to make a very interesting and instructive collection if only they are brought forward. Printed blanks are furnished, on which donors or loaners of relics can write a brief history of each article and the owner's name. A complete collection of the minerals, woods, flora and fauna of this section, ought to be placed in the library, and so arranged that the public school children can study them at leisure.

The trustees voted to join the Massachusetts Library Art Club, by which means we are able to hang in the art room from time to time valuable collections of photographs, and reprints of historic and modern works of art, architecture and scenery. The public are invited to study these. We invite your careful attention to the report of the book committee. We recommend an appropriation of \$600 for the year ensuing. Appended are the financial reports.

N. P. WOOD,
GEO. F. PIPER,
HENRY W. RANKIN,
C. H. GREENE,
H. W. MONTAGUE,
MRS. M. A. CALDWELL,
Library Trustees.

Report of the Book Committee.

A comparison of the librarian's report for the year ending Feb. 11, 1899, with that for the year ending Feb. 5, 1898, shows an increase in the circulation of books from 4,046 to 8,798, or of about 120 per cent. This increase is the more encouraging when we consider that the new building has been occupied but eight months, and that for three weeks, during the removal from the room in the town hall, no books were in circulation. The number of families taking books has increased from 169 to 240. The paper covers have been removed from the books, and a new catalogue made on the most approved system. Patrons of the library now have access to its shelves, and are able to make their selections with much less trouble than formerly. Arrangements have been made by which books recommended by the supervisor are carried to and from the public schools, and 381 volumes have been taken by school children the past year, an increase of 176 volumes over the preceding year. On account of large extra expenses which have necessarily been incurred, the expenditure for books has been less than usual, barely exceeding the amount required by the terms on which the social library was accepted by the town in 1878. 63 volumes have been bought, and 123 presented. For the volumes presented acknowledgment is made, and thanks returned as follows: To Hon. Joseph Mason, Plainfield, N. J., 55 volumes; Mrs. A. M. D. Alexander, 12 volumes; U. S. Government 12 volumes; Northfield Book Club, 10 volumes; Henry W. Rankin, 8 volumes; John Mattoon, 6 volumes; the Misses Belcher, 5 volumes; Mrs. Woodruff, 4 volumes, Wright Stratton, 2 volumes; A. P. Fitt, 2 volumes; Mrs. Susan Dickinson, Mrs. Gillette, Miss E. H. Brown, Miss Fanny Mattoon, Miss Garrett and Miss Lee Clire, 1 volume each.

The reading room, like the library, has been open 18 hours a week, and the number of readers on an average has not been less than 30 a week—probably more. The following 12 magazines and newspapers are furnished for the year ending July 1, 1899, from the appropriation

for current expenses, at a cost of \$24.30: Review of Reviews, New England Magazine, Harper's Magazine, St. Nicholas, Round Table, Literary World, McClure's Magazine, Ladies' Home Journal, Youths' Companion, Outlook, Independent, and Springfield Weekly Republican. 12 publications are also regularly received at the reading room by the kindness of the following parties to whom the thanks of the trustees are hereby rendered:

The Congregationalist, Mrs. A. M. D. Alexander: the Pilot, James Wall; The Christian Register, the Young People's Guild; The New World, Rev. N. P. Gilman; The Missionary Review, D. L. Kinson; The Popular Educator and Primary Education, J. E. Warren; Success, Joseph and Mary Colton; The Advocate of Peace, American Peace Society, The Record of Christian Work, W. R. Moody, The Woman's Home Companion, and The Paradise of the Pacific, donors and unknown.

By a recent vote of the trustees, periodicals which have been on file a reasonable time can be taken from the library on the same conditions as books.

GEO. F. PIPER,
H. W. RANKIN,
MRS. M. A. CALDWELL,
Book Committee.

Library Furnishing Report.

1897.

Nov. 15, N. P. Wood, incidentals,	14 99
-----------------------------------	-------

Dec. 31, Emerson & Son, tables and window shades,	179 26
---	--------

1898.

Jan. 3, Revere Rubber Co., treads and mats,	26 40
---	-------

Feb. 15, Library bureau, book stack,	445 00
--------------------------------------	--------

18, J. H. Burt & Co., window and door screens,	96 00
--	-------

18, Geo. A. Stearns, wood,	22 74
----------------------------	-------

25, Heywood Bros., chairs,	121 50
----------------------------	--------

April 6, John Carter & Co., card board,	15 00
---	-------

19, W. D. Morgan, book stack and cabinet,	50 00
---	-------

June 25, A. P. Wood, incidentals,	103 67
-----------------------------------	--------

July 3, W. D. Morgan, gas fittings and chandeliers,	126 36
---	--------

1, F. W. Doane, freight and cartage,	8 78
--------------------------------------	------

9, J. W. Zwicer, work and lumber,	10 65
-----------------------------------	-------

23, N. P. Wood, gas plant and incidentals,	235 96
--	--------

Aug. 27, N. P. Wood, incidentals,	22 32
-----------------------------------	-------

Sept. 3, Library bureau, incidentals,	25 28
---------------------------------------	-------

16, " " "	3 25
-----------------------------	------

1899.

Benj. Hills, cabinet and tables,	50 00
----------------------------------	-------

Jan. 13, Freight on same,	2 30
---------------------------	------

— — — \$1,559 46

Library Current Expense Report.

1898.	
June 25, DeWolfe, Fiske & Co., books,	51 39
29, S. E. Bridgeman & Co., books,	24 30
July 1, Library bureau, author table,	1 25
7, De Wolfe, Fiske & Co., books,	5 67
9, Geo. F. Piper, Express charges,	50
17, De Wolfe, Fiske & Co., books,	9 95
Aug. 27, Library seal,	4 00
Sept. 1, Library bureau, incidentals,	3 90
1, E. L. Hildreth, printing,	7 25
1, W. H. White, binding books,	15 10
Oct. 1, N. P. Wood, envelopes and stamps,	5 00
Nov. 10, Geo. A. Stearns, wood,	51 75
1899.	
Jan. A. W. Proctor, incidentals,	3 11
Feb. 9, Mrs. F. J. Stockbridge, librarian,	121 40
F. J. Stockbridge, janitor,	51 00
11, Northfield Farms, library association,	20 00
Different dates, C. A. Maynard, work cataloguing,	175 00

\$550 57

N. P. WOOD,
GEO. F. PIPER,
HENRY W. RANKIN,
C. H. GREEN,
H. W. MONTAGUE,
MRS. M. A. CALDWELL,

Library Trustees.

Report of Library Treasurer.

NORTHFIELD LIBRARY.

	DR.	
May 11, Library art club,	5 00	
June 1, Incidentals,	91	
8, Express on library of Congress,	45	
11, Miss Thurston, 9 lbs. coffee,	3 11	
11, Geo. M. Oaks, 25 doz. rolls,	3 00	
16, Tapers,	15	
17, Houghton, Mifflin & Co.,	22 00	
27, Express on books,	75	
July 8, " "	30	
27, Express on pictures,	62	
Sept. 1, " books,	35	
17, " "	25	
21, " map,	30	
22, H. H. Mason's bill,	5 75	
1897.		
Dec., Ladies' Home Journal pictures,	5 00	
Express on same,	90	
1898.		
Dec. 15, Paid P. Cutting for sawing and getting into library 13 cords of wood,	13 00	\$61 88
Feb. 16, Cash on hand,		8 63
		\$70 51

NORTHFIELD LIBRARY.

	CR.	
Cash on hand Feb. 15, 1898,	50 15	
June, Cash from Mrs. A. M. D. Alexander, and others,	5 00	
Feb. 15, Cash received from librarian, dues on books,	15 36	
		\$70 51

C. H. GREEN, Treasurer.

Library Report,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEB. 11, 1899.

Number of volumes in library last report,	4,265
Number volumes purchased past year,	63
Number of volumes presented past year,	123
	4,451
Discarded as worn out or unsuitable,	57
Duplicates,	85
	4,309
Number of families, patrons of library,	238
Families from surrounding towns, patrons of library,	2
Number of visitors, patrons of library,	14
Number of volumes taken by families,	8,357
Number of volumes taken by public schools,	381
Number of volumes taken by visitors,	60
Total,	8,798
Amount of fines collected,	\$18 58
Received from families out of town taking books,	\$2 00
Amount paid for incidentals,	5 22
Balance,	\$15 36
Uncollected fines,	\$1 92

MRS. F. J. STOCKBRIDGE, Librarian.

Report of the School Committee.

TO THE CITIZENS OF THE TOWN OF NORTHFIELD:

In submitting the school report for the year ending Feb. 24, 1899, we are pleased to refer you to Superintendent J. E. Warren's report. Under skilled supervision, the schools have steadily improved, and to-day we believe that they compare favorably with any rural schools in the Commonwealth.

As few changes as possible have been made in our corps of teachers. The committee have kept informed in the work being done in the school room. We feel satisfied that, in addition to the lessons required to be taught by law, the children are receiving daily lessons in good morals, in good manners, in patriotism, in respect for law and order, and in all that tends to make good citizens.

The school buildings, except No. 3, are in good condition. The furnace in the Centre building is unsatisfactory. It seems impossible to heat all the rooms on cold, windy days. A new method of heating and ventilating has been introduced in school house No. 2, with very satisfactory results. It may be deemed advisable to introduce this system into other buildings during the coming year. Beside the incidental repairs, the Centre building has been painted, and school house No. 9 thoroughly renovated.

J. M. Clapp presented school No. 9 with twelve handsomely framed engravings. He also gave the other schools as many engravings as the committee could frame. Twenty were framed and hung in the different school rooms, thereby adding much to the attractiveness of the rooms.

CALENDAR FOR 1899-1900.

Spring term,	13 weeks,	begins March 27,	closes June 23
Fall term,	15 weeks,	begins Sept. 4,	closes Dec. 15
Winter term,	8 weeks,	begins Jan. 1,	closes Feb. 23

We recommend for the coming year: For schools, \$2,800; for books and supplies, \$300; conveyance of pupils, \$300; salary of superintendent, \$260.

L. R. SMITH,	}	School Committee.
NELLIE M. WOOD,		
E. S. BARDWELL,		

Financial School Report.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEB. 16, 1899.

APPROPRIATIONS AND RECEIPTS.

In general,	\$2 800 00
Repairs,	300 00
Text books and supplies,	300 00
Conveyance,	300 00
Superintendent,	260 00
Massachusetts school fund,	394 43
Income surplus revenue,	64 00
Dog fund,	188 49
State aid for supervision,	173 00
Tuition,	12 00
For supplies,	4 40
	\$4,796 32

EXPENDITURES.

SALARY OF TEACHERS.

J. A. Nolan, No. 1,	\$432 00
Anna Thompson, No. 1,	396 00
Lucy W. Sanderson, No. 1,	360 00
Anna Dwight, No. 6,	106 00
Jennie Pierce, No. 3 and 2,	109 90
Lottie Evans, No. 4,	360 00
Emma Dwight, No. 5,	180 00
E. A. Stevens, No. 6,	78 00
Margaret Whitty, No. 7,	156 00
Carrie Russell, No. 9,	228 00
Alice Dwight, No. 2,	280 00
Ethel Edgerton, No. 6,	72 00
Ermine Keith, No. 6,	71 50

Louise Morse, No. 7,	96 00	
Anna Palmer,	163 00	
Edith Clark,	28 00	
		————— \$3,116 40

SUPPLIES.

Edward Babb & Co.,	\$58 96	
J. S. Hammett & Co.,	46 74	
A. W. Proctor,	6 20	
American Express Co., Vermont R. R.,	11 73	
Geo. S. Perry,	1 94	
Silver, Burdett & Co.,	33 46	
D. C. Heath & Co.,	32 19	
Retting Bros.,	25 20	
Ginn & Co.,	26 98	
H. S. Swan,	10 00	
Werner & Co.,	5 76	
American Book Co.,	37 36	
C. T. Bagnall,	13 50	
F. D. Jones,	4 20	
Pickard & Walker,	2 95	
Geo. Merriman,	17 00	
Educational Publishing Co.,	5 63	
		————— \$342 80

CARE OF SCHOOL BUILDING.

Andrew Hicks, No. 7,	1 20	
E. H. Dwight, No. 6,	10 10	
E. A. Stevens, No. 6,	3 25	
Lottie Evans, No. 4,	11 10	
Carrie Russell, No. 9,	8 25	
Jennie Pierce, No. 3,	3 00	
Willie Alexander, No. 2,	8 90	
Chas. Pomeroy, No. 1,	37 50	
Henry Russell, No. 9,	2 00	
Robert Strange, No. 7,	3 30	
Edith Edgerton, No. 6,	3 00	
Chas. Pomeroy, No. 1,	38 00	
Leon Merrill, No. 7,	2 75	
Chas. Pomeroy, No. 1,	16 50	
D. L. Richardson, No. 4,	5 00	

40 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

Ermine Keith, No. 6,	3 85	
Thomas Johnson, No. 2,	8 70	
Louise Morse, No. 7,	3 00	
Chas. Pomeroy, No. 1,	25 25	
Henry Holton, No. 4,	6 00	
Frank Piper, No. 6,	2 00	
	— — —	\$202 65

REPAIRS.

J. E. Warren,	2 50	
W. A. Reed,	3 25	
R. M. Snow,	11 85	
J. T. Cummings,	76 45	
Chas. O'Keefe,	4 55	
P. P. Hosmer,	4 08	
Smith & Anthony,	11 20	
H. S. Swan,	2 50	
W. D. Morgan,	28 07	
Henry Russell,	50	
Joseph Ross,	2 00	
Fred Aldrich,	3 00	
	— — —	\$149 95

FUEL.

Willie Alexander, No. 2,	3 00	
F. W. Doane, No's. 1 and 2,	138 98	
C. I. Holton, No. 7,	45 25	
Andrew Hicks, No. 7,	1 52	
George Stearns, No's. 9 and 2,	36 90	
Ernest Billings, No. 3,	2 00	
Wm. Davis, No. 4,	2 00	
northfield 11		
S. S. Fisher, No. 5,	10 50	
J. W. Mann, No. 4,	12 19	
G. W. Piper, No. 6,	2 25	
	— — —	\$254 59

CONVEYANCE.

S. L. Pike, No. 6,	108 00
Wm. C. Fellows, No. 5,	50 00

T. R. Callendar, No. 3,	18 50	
Mrs. Rufus Phillips, No. 7,	5 00	
		\$181 50

RECAPITULATION.

Appropriations and receipts,		\$4,796 32
Paid teachers,	3,116 40	
Text books and supplies,	342 80	
Care of school buildings,	202 65	
Repairs on buildings,	149 95	
Fuel,	254 59	
Conveyance,	181 50	
Superintendent,	259 56	
Town of Orange, tuition,	25 00	
Unpaid bills, (estimated)	100 00	
Balance unexpended appropriation,	163 87	
		\$4,796 32

L. R. SMITH,	}	School Committee.
E. S. BARDWELL,		
NELLIE M. WOOD,		

Superintendent's Report,

TO THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:—

The fourth annual report of the Superintendent of schools is hereby respectfully submitted.

It is a pleasure to be able to say that in nearly every school harmony and good feeling have existed between teachers and scholars. Especially fine work has been done in some of the schools, and good progress has been made in all. Notwithstanding the temporary illness of Miss Palmer, the music has had a fairly successful year.

A graded course in reading and literature was prepared, and was placed in the hands of the teachers and pupils at the opening of the fall term. This course aims to lead the children to form the habit of reading good literature. The trustees of the Dickinson Memorial Library have assisted by creating a School Department of the library. The department includes all of the books recommended by the National Educational Association for school libraries and other volumes, which experience has shown to be interesting and profitable to young people. These books have been eagerly read by the children in all parts of the town. It is believed that much good has come from this effort to direct the reading of the pupils of the public schools. Still better results are looked for in the future.

A graded spelling book, prepared by Dr. J. M. Rice, editor of "The Forum," has been introduced. This book is to be used to supplement the regular work in spelling. This work is an attempt to teach each child to spell correctly those words which he has sufficient mastery of to use in conversation or writing. To accomplish this, it is necessary for the teachers to know each child's vocabulary. As no two children have exactly the same vocabulary, this can only be learned by watching

the pupil's papers. The misspelled words on these papers are used for spelling lesson. This plan must be followed persistently, if the children are to become good spellers. The vocabulary can then be increased if the teacher constantly seeks occasion for the pupil to use the new words of geography, history, literature, and science, until these words become a part of the child. If the teachers could find time to do this thoroughly, spelling books would be unnecessary. But as most of our schools contain a number of grades, and the calls upon the teacher's time are almost innumerable, it was thought best to assist the teachers by providing spelling books, even though the list of words for study imperfectly meet the needs of the children.

There were so few pupils at No. 3, that in two weeks after the opening of the fall term, the school was, in accordance with your wishes, closed, and the children brought to the Centre. This action has saved the town five dollars a week. The children have been more punctual and regular in attendance, for a comfortable vehicle has carried them to school in the morning and returned them safely to their homes at night. Being in larger classes they have studied with more interest and enthusiasm, and have made better progress. This was to be expected, as in the graded schools the teachers having fewer classes are able to make better preparation, give longer recitations, and do more thorough work.

The town has been fortunate in being able to retain a strong corps of teachers throughout the year. The only changes have occurred at Nos. 6 and 7. It is highly important to keep good teachers as long as possible, for a change retards the progress of the pupils and materially interferes with the success of the school. A faithful, capable and progressive teacher will increase in usefulness as long as she is continued in a position.

STATISTICS.

School.	Teacher.	Weeks Taught.	Weekly Wages.	Pupils Enrolled.	Average Membership.	Average Attendance.	Per cent of Attendance
No. 1.							
High.	Joseph A. Nolan.	36	\$12.00	34	23.9	21.8	91
Gram.	Anna Thompson.	36	11.00	32	31	28.75	93
Primary	Lucy Sanderson.	36	10.00	37	30.4	27.6	91
No. 2.	Alice M. Dwight.	36	10.00	39	32	28.25	88
No. 3.	Jennie S. Pierce.	14	7.00	9			
No. 4.	Lottie E. Evans.	36	10.00	27	21.7	19.3	89
No. 5.	Emma S. Dwight.	36	6.00		11.8	11.2	95
No. 6.	Edith A. Stevens,	6	6.00	13	10.8	9.51	88
	Ethel Egerton,	12	6.00				
	Erminnie I. Keith.	11	6.50				
No. 7.	Margaret A. Whitty,	24	7.00	34	27.2	24.5	90
	Louise Morse.	12	8.00				
No. 9.	Carrie Russell.	36	6.50	26	20.4	19.6	96

Roll of Honor.

The following are the names of those who have been neither absent nor tardy. The figures at the right of the name indicates the number of terms:

Fred Aldrich,	Winnie J. Dresser, 2
Mary Aldrich,	Archie S. Fellows, 2
Madeline Beaman, 3	Bertha S. Fellows,
Edwin A. Bigelow,	Ethel L. Fellows, 2
George Bigelow,	Edna B. Finney,
Willie W. Bigelow,	Agnes S. Fisher, 3
Ethel M. Carroll,	Bernard S. Fisher, 3
Mary Casey,	Byron Gillett,
James Crelan,	Murry M. Hammond, 2
Jennie Crelan,	Willie Hilliard,
Cecil Cummings,	Ethel F. Jackson, .
David P. Dale, 2	Harry L. King,
Katharine Dale,	Clifford E. Lyman,
Mary J. Dale, 2	Raymond L. Mason, 2
William Dale, 2	Elsie Newton,
Pauline Davis,	Katharine O'Keefe,
Amy Dresser,	Florence M. Park,
Bertha F. Dresser,	Lottie Phillips,
Ethel L. Dresser, 2	Harold E. Randall, 3
E. Myrtle Dresser,	Joseph S. Rawson,
Vera W. Dresser, 2	Mary Shea,
Ernest S. Smith,	Donald H. Sprague,
Fannie Stockbridge,	Elfrado A. Webster,
Robert Strange,	Herbert A. Webster,
Carrie Tanski,	Marion Webster,
Robert D. Ware,	Ralph Weeks,
J. Ernest Warren, 2	Raymond Weeks.

Respectfully submitted,

J. E. WARREN, Supt. of Schools.

Proposed By-Laws

SUBMITTED TO THE TOWN FOR ADOPTION BY THE COMMITTEE CHOSEN AT A SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, DEC. 24.

ARTICLE I.

TOWN MEETINGS.

SEC. 1. The election of Town Officers shall be held on the first Monday in March.

SEC. 2. All warrants for Town Meetings, whether annual or special, shall be served by posting copies of the same at the post office at Northfield, East Northfield, West Northfield, Northfield Farms, and schoolhouse in District No. 6, at least seven days before the time of holding said meeting, and the fee shall be four dollars for posting same.

SEC. 3. The powers and duties of the presiding officer, and the rules for the conduct of debate not especially provided for by law, or by the by-laws of the town, shall be determined by the rules of procedure contained in Cushing's Manual, so far as they are adapted to the conditions and powers of the town.

SEC. 4. No vote fixing the time for closing a ballot shall be reconsidered after such ballot shall have commenced, but the time for closing such ballot may be extended.

SEC. 5. A motion to dissolve a Town Meeting, or to adjourn without date, shall not be in order until action has been taken regarding all articles in the warrant. Motions to adjourn from day to day, or to a certain time within two months from the time of meeting, shall be in order, and shall have the privileged character usually given such motions.

SEC. 6. Motions shall be submitted in writing when so required by the Moderator.

SEC. 7. At any Town Meeting held for the transaction of town business, except during the progress of balloting at state and town elections, the floor of the hall shall be reserved for legal voters only. The galleries shall be open, however, to the general public.

SEC. 8. No final vote shall be reconsidered unless a notice for that purpose is publicly given within thirty minutes of the adoption of such a vote, and a two-thirds vote of those present, and voting shall be necessary for the reconsideration of any final vote.

ARTICLE II.

FINANCES AND TAXES.

SEC. 1. The financial year shall begin with the fifteenth day of February, in each year.

SEC. 2. The Assessors shall complete the list, and deliver their warrant to the Collector on or before the first day of August, of each year.

SEC. 3. The Collector shall prepare bills for each year, within fourteen days from the time the taxes are furnished him by the Assessors, and the same shall be forthwith distributed to the tax payers, by mail or otherwise. Upon each bill shall be printed the rate of taxation, time and rate of discount, a statement of interest to be charged for non-payment, and a notice of the time within which the taxes must be paid, in order to avoid costs, arrest, or levy upon property.

SEC. 4. All taxes on real and personal estate shall be due and payable on or before the first day of November, of each year. Poll taxes shall be due and payable on demand. January first the Collector shall proceed to collect, according to law, all taxes remaining unpaid.

SEC. 5. In all cases when abatements of taxes are made by the Assessors, the certificates of such abatements shall be signed by a majority of the board.

SEC. 6. The Tax Collector shall pay over to the Town Treasurer all money received by him within seven days of its receipt.

SEC. 7. All money belonging to the town deposited in any bank, shall be deposited in the name of, and to the credit of, the town, and shall be drawn only by check or receipt signed by the Treasurer.

SEC. 8. The Town Treasurer shall not borrow any money on behalf of the town upon any promissory note executed by him as such Treasurer, unless such note is first countersigned by the Selectmen.

SEC. 9. No money of the town shall be paid out by the Treasurer except on orders drawn by the Selectmen, provided, however, that state and county taxes, and notes of the town with interest thereon, may be paid by the Treasurer without such orders.

SEC. 10. No appropriation for a specific purpose or any unapplied balance thereof, shall be altered or transferred to any other account,

except by express vote of the town, and if a balance remains unexpended after one year from the time of its appropriation, it shall revert to the general treasury, to be paid out only on a new appropriation.

SEC. 11. An accurate list of the appropriations made at any Town meeting shall be sent by the Town Clerk within seven days of said meeting, to the Town Treasurer, and to the Town Officers and Committee, under whose direction the appropriations are to be expended.

SEC. 12. The money received each year from dog licenses shall be appropriated to the public library for the maintenance of the library, or the purchase of new books, unless otherwise directed by a vote of the town.

SEC. 13. All money paid to the town shall be credited by the Treasurer to the account to which it properly belongs.

SEC. 14. No appropriation of a larger sum than two thousand dollars shall be made at any Town Meeting, excepting the business session of the annual meeting, unless by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting at any such meeting, and no appropriation for any given purpose shall exceed the amount specified in the warrant, if any sum is stated therein.

ARTICLE III.

TOWN OFFICERS AND REPORTS.

SEC. 1. It shall be the duty of the Selectmen to publish the annual reports of the Town Officers and Committees, and the report shall be issued and distributed previous to the first Monday in March of each year.

SEC. 2. The reports of all the Town Officers and Committees shall be issued in one book, and shall contain a copy of the annual Town Warrant. The report shall show the expenses in each department in detail, and financial condition of the town.

SEC. 3. The Selectmen shall have full authority as agents of the town to employ counsel to institute and prosecute suits in the name of the town, to appear for and defend suits brought against it, unless specially ordered by vote of the town, or otherwise provided by the laws of the commonwealth.

SEC. 4. The annual report of the Town Clerk shall contain a complete list of the marriages, births and deaths during the year; a statement of the receipts and expenditures of the office during the year.

SEC. 5. The annual report of the Tax Collector shall contain a statement of the amount committed for collection, and amount of in-

terest collected, the amount paid over to the Treasurer, amount of abatements and discounts, amount of uncollected taxes and cash on hand.

SEC. 6. The annual report of Overseers of the Poor shall contain a summary of the expenses for the support of the poor during the year. A list of people in town who have received regular or partial support, showing the amounts given for aid in each case. A list of those receiving partial support in other places, including a list of the insane poor, showing hospitals where they are located. A statement of the number of tramps lodged and fed during the year.

SEC. 7. The annual report of the Assessors shall contain a complete list of all abatements of taxes, the names of the parties whose taxes have been abated during the year, the reasons for and the amounts of such abatements. A statement showing the number of assessed polls, value of real estate and personal property for the year, the estimated income and receipts and figures, showing how the rate of taxation was fixed. Beginning with the year 1900, it shall be the duty of the Assessors once in five years, to issue along with the annual reports of the town officers an accurate and complete list of the valuation of the real and personal estates of the town, the list of assessed polls and property exempt from taxation, unless otherwise voted by the town.

SEC. 8. The annual report of the School Committee shall contain a statement showing the value of the school property held by the town, in buildings, grounds, furniture, text books and supplies. A statement as to the number of pupils, the cost of instruction and text books for each pupil, and the rank of the town in this respect as returned by the State Board of Education. A statement as to the rank of the town in its appropriations for schools as returned by the State Board of Education. Reports of the year's work in the schools with such recommendations and explanations regarding educational work as the committee may think best.

SEC. 9. Before certifying to the accounts of the Treasurer, the Auditors shall examine his cash book, wherein shall be entered his receipts and payments that occur from day to day, shall see that he has paid out no money except on proper vouchers, carefully examine all payments for interest, and see that money on hand is intact.

SEC. 10. Before certifying to the Collector's accounts, the Auditors shall examine his cash book, showing the amounts collected from day to day, and showing when the same were paid over to the Treasurer,

shall see that he has collected interest on all taxes over due, and shall see a complete list of the abatements, and also a list of unpaid taxes.

SEC. 11. It shall be the duty of Auditors to examine the books and accounts of all town officers and committees intrusted with the expenditures of money, to see that the same are kept in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth and the By-Laws of the town.

SEC. 12. The Auditors shall make an annual report of their doings, together with such statements and remarks in regard to the legality or propriety of any of the transactions or expenditures as they may consider required by the interests of the town.

ARTICLE IV.

STREETS, SIDEWALKS.

SEC. 1. Any person licensed by the Selectmen to obstruct any sidewalk or street, or break or dig the ground of the same, shall put up and keep up at all times a suitable railing around the parts of the sidewalk or street so obstructed or dug up, so long as the same shall be unsafe or inconvenient for traveling. The person so licensed shall also keep enough lighted lanterns at or near the parts of the street so obstructed or dug up, from twilight in the evening through the whole night, as shall be sufficient to warn travelers.

SEC. 2. No person shall tie or fasten any horse, cattle or team to any of the trees planted in any public highway, street or public lands in the town, nor drive into the same any spikes, nails, hooks, staples, nor affix any signs thereto.

SEC. 3. No person shall kick football, or play at any game in which a ball or missile of any kind is used, on any of the public streets of the town.

SEC. 4. No person shall in any of the streets of the town discharge any gun, fowling piece, pistol or firearms, except in the performance of a legal duty.

SEC. 5. Petitioners for a new street shall in all cases pay the costs of surveying and laying out the proposed street, but the surveying and laying out shall be done under the supervision of the Selectmen, and all petitions for the laying out of a new street shall contain an agreement to pay the cost of such surveying and laying out.

ARTICLE V.

PENALTIES AND AMENDMENTS.

SEC. 1. Every violation of the foregoing By-Laws shall be punished by a fine of not more than twenty dollars, (\$20).

SEC. 2. Penalties recovered for the violation of these By-Laws shall be paid into the treasury of the town, for the use of the town.

SEC. 3. No person shall be prosecuted or tried for any breach of the provisions of the By-Laws of the town unless the complaint for the same shall be made within one year from the time of committing such breach.

SEC. 4. The By-Laws may be amended at the business session of any annual town meeting, an article or articles for that purpose having been inserted in the warrant for such meeting.

SEC. 5. These By-Laws shall take effect from and after their approval by the Superior Court, and upon such approval all By-Laws heretofore adopted by the town shall be annulled and repealed.

ERNEST C. FIELD,	}	Committee on By-Laws.
SAMUEL C. HOLTON,		
CLINTON A. WARE,		

THE HISTORY OF THE
THE HISTORY OF THE
THE HISTORY OF THE
THE HISTORY OF THE
THE HISTORY OF THE

THE HISTORY OF THE
THE HISTORY OF THE
THE HISTORY OF THE
THE HISTORY OF THE
THE HISTORY OF THE

THE HISTORY OF THE
THE HISTORY OF THE
THE HISTORY OF THE
THE HISTORY OF THE
THE HISTORY OF THE





